

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 NIC-01 EUR-25 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13

DRC-01 /172 W

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P R 191947Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5259

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 2832

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CI

SUBJ: CHILEAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

CINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: STATE 186005

1. LOCAL LEFTIST PRESS REPORTED THAT CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO URUGUAY, RAUL ELGUETA, AND AMBASSADOR TO THE LATIN AMERICAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION (LAFTA), PEDRO DAZA VALENZUELA, HAD RESIGNED IN PROTEST OVER MILITARY COUP. HOWEVER, ELGUETA TOLD HIGH URUGUAYAN FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL THAT, ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO INTENTION OF PUBLICLY DENYING LEFTIST MISSTATEMENTS, HE HAD NOT AND HAD NO INTENTION OF RESIGNING. YESTERDAY (SEPTEMBER 18) AT FORMAL WREATH LAYING CEREMONY IN COMMEMORATION OF CHILEAN NATIONAL DAY, BOTH ELGUETA AND DAZA WERE ASKED BY REPORTERS IF THEY HAD RESIGNED. BOTH NOTED THAT THEY WERE CAREER CIVIL SERVANTS WHO PLANNED TO CONTINUE TO SERVE THEIR GOVERNMENT.

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2. ELGUETA AND DAZA, AS CAREER FUNCTIONARIES, HAVE FAITH-

FULLY REPRESENTED THE POSITIONS OF THEIR COUNTRY DURING THE
ALLENDE PERIOD. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH CLOSE
FRIENDS, HOWEVER, BOTH AT TIMES HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF
ALLENDE GOVERNMENT. BOTH HAVE FAITHFULLY REPRESENTED NEW
GOVERNMENT SINCE SEPTEMBER 11 COUP. EMBASSY PUBLIC
STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO RELEASE OF COMMUNIQUES FROM
CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND REASSURANCES THAT SITUATION
IN CHILE IS NOW CALM AND THAT PRESS REPORTS WERE EXAGGERATED.
SIRACUSA

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NNN

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